



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD
Scottsdale Center for the Arts Building
7384 E. Second Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Scottsdale, AZ
Wednesday, May 15, 2002
5:00 p.m.

Call To Order.

Chair Basinger, noting the presence of a quorum, called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

Members Present: Daniel Basinger, Chair
Lynn Ashby
Michael Brady
Bodo Diehn
Anne Marie Jack
Randy Nussbaum

Members Absent: Don Manthe

Staff Present: Larry Person
Kroy Ekblaw
Connie Padian
Anthony Floyd
Monroe Warren
Ed Peaser

Others Present: Wayne Farnsworth, APS representative

ROLL CALL

A formal roll call was taken, with members present as indicated above.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Board Member Diehn, the minutes of the 4/17/02 minutes were approved. Board Member Jack seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

GENERAL MANAGER UPDATE

- **Planning & Development Services Department Reorganization**

Mr. Ekblaw referred to a copy of the organizational chart, which he distributed to the Board Members. He noted recent changes made in the Planning Systems Department, beginning with the title. He stated that the department is now Planning and Development Services. Mr. Ekblaw stressed the importance of the “service” element in the title, and reviewed the restructuring process and the organization of the department. He advised the Board that he was interested in involving the EQAB in assessing the environmental activities throughout the organization. He also noted that discussions are ongoing in regard to how to best focus environmental efforts.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Electric Drops**

Mr. Farnsworth distributed a handout describing the three options available for new construction electrical drops. The three options were listed in APS order of preference, with the regular meter set on the permanent panel the preferred mode. He reviewed those for the Board and indicated that APS did not oppose the implementation of electric drops, and would certainly help promote use of the first option. Chair Basinger inquired about the timing and the cost. Mr. Farnsworth explained that, depending on the size of the job, it could take anywhere from two weeks to eight weeks for the install. He stated that the cost to the contractor for the regular meter set on the permanent panel would be \$80.00, and that the other two options would be more expensive.

Mr. Peaser explained that the City requires a deposit on commercial projects for temporary power equal to the amount of the building permit or \$1,000, whichever is greater. The residential deposit is the amount of the permit or \$1,000, whichever is less. He added that this deposit is fully refundable.

Discussion ensued as to the possibility of requiring the electric drop, and the impact on contractors, the City and APS. Mr. Peaser noted that the electric drop protocol as outlined by APS would be supported by his department. He agreed to report back at the next Board meeting as to whether or not an additional staff person would be necessary to meet the increased inspection demand. Ms. Padian recommended, as a starting point, developing a liaison to work with the Home Builders Association to discuss the proposed changes.

- EQAB Work Plan 2002/2003 Revisited

Mr. Person referred to the Work Plan and noted that it had been enhanced to identify other City staff or departments having environmental issues or programs, that might be brought before the Board. He noted that several items had been added and asked the Board Members to review the Plan.

- Sustainability Indicators Feedback Update

Ms. Padian referred to the survey sent to the Boards and Commissions and stated that only seven of forty-two were returned. She noted that copies were included in the Board Member packets. She stated that she was continuing an evaluation of the indicators to be included. Chair Basinger requested that the appropriate Boards and Commissions receive a preliminary copy of the document in order to include their comments as an appendix. Board Member Ashby commented on the importance of water issues in light of the drought forecasts.

- Green Building Committee Liaison.

Mr. Floyd provided background information about the Green Building Program and the Green Building Committee. He noted that the Committee was a subcommittee of the EQAB and consisted of twelve members approved by the EQAB. He explained that the Green Building Committee is a proactive group with representatives from many professional areas throughout the valley. They have been instrumental in developing residential and commercial guidelines for green building.

Mr. Floyd stated that Ron Hand had volunteered to act as liaison between the Green Building Committee and the EQAB, and would be present at the EQAB meetings. He also announced that the Committee membership needed to be updated and that he would present names of individuals for appointment to the committee for approval by the EQAB at the next meeting. He also requested approval of the appointment of Ron Hand as the liaison

In response to a question by Board Member Nussbaum, Mr. Floyd explained the rating system for certification in the Green Building Program and the incentives for participating in the program. Ms. Padian commented that her department would look at ways to disseminate more green building information to the general public. Board Member Brady asked if redevelopment projects were being addressed in the Green Building Program. Mr. Floyd replied that residential remodeling and implementation of green policies for City facilities were stated goals for the Committee this year.

NEW BUSINESS

- Environmental Procurement

Mr. Warren, Director of Purchasing for the City, addressed the Board. He explained the environmental procurement policy and noted that his department looks at the process of procurement from the standpoint of design, purchase, use and disposal. He observed that the City does a good job with the disposal element, but that noted the purchase element is problematic, as the most environmentally friendly product might also be the most expensive. Mr. Warren pointed out the difficulty in making decisions based on what is environmentally responsible and how much of the taxpayer's money to spend to that end.

Board Member Diehn questioned who made the decisions as to what was the correct product to purchase from an environmental standpoint. He suggested that perhaps the EQAB could be included in the process. Mr. Warren replied that purchasing staff in conjunction with the using department would make that decision. He commented that a set of guidelines from the EQAB would be helpful. Mr. Person clarified that the Environmental Office has identified products that are less toxic for internal procurement and the needs of the organization. He added that preference in the bid process is given to vendors offering environmentally responsible products.

Mr. Warren commented that environmental education and awareness for all City staff was needed, and that perhaps periodic environmental procurement assessments would be appropriate. He also stressed the need for seeking new ideas from outside the organization. There was discussion as to EQAB involvement with procurement of green materials for one of the proposed upcoming major facilities. Chair Basinger voiced the Board's commitment to the implementation of an environmental procurement code and a proactive stance on these issues.

Mr. Person complimented Mr. Warren and his department for their efforts to advance the use of environmentally sensitive products.

- Energy Code

Mr. Floyd advised the Board that adoption of the International Residential Code was scheduled for presentation to City Council in September. The Code includes new energy performance criteria including energy efficiency and solar applications, and will be used as an international standard. Mr. Floyd also discussed a new credit purchase program initiated by APS to encourage the use of photovoltaic systems.

- Board Vacancy

Chair Basinger announced that Board Member Diehn has served his term on the Board following the June meeting. Board Member Jack also announced that she would be resigning as of this meeting, as she would be relocating out of state. Chair Basinger appointed Board Member Nussbaum to head a committee to evaluate the applications for the vacant Board positions. Board Members Diehn and Ashby were appointed to serve on the committee.

UPDATES AND REMINDERS

Chair Basinger reported on the Solar Event, and Board Member Nussbaum reviewed the Board and Commission Recognition Event, both of which were successful and instructive events for those in attendance.

Chair Basinger commented on the opening of Pinnacle Peak Park and highly recommended the hiking trail.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Swanberg
Court Reporter